

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00597 271454Z

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ACTION IO-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, AORG, SPOP, CU, PQ

SUBJ: WORLD CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

(WCIWY)--POSSIBLE ATTEMPT BY PUERTO RICAN

"INDEPENDISTAS" TO ATTACK US

REF: MEXICO 1470

1. PUERTO RICAN PAPER, SAN JUAN STAR, ON FEB 11 CARRIED REPORT THAT AT ITS FIRST MEETING, NEWLY-ORGANIZED PUERTO RICO WOMEN'S FEDERATION "ANNOUNCED IT WILL SEEK TO HALT THE USE OF WOMEN AS 'GUINEA PIGS' IN EXPERIMENTS FOR BIRTH CONTROL METHODS AND IN 'MASSIVE STERILIZATION.'"

2. AS REPORTED IN SAN JUAN STAR, OTHER POINTS IN 15-POINT PROGRAM, WHICH FEDERATION INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT DURING IWY, PARALLEL GOALS SOUGHT BY WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS ELSEWHERE INCLUDING IN US. THERE IS ELEMENT OF CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THESE OTHER GOALS ON ONE HAND AND OPPOSITION TO BIRTH CONTROL ON THE OTHER, SINCE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ABOUT AND ACCESS TO BIRTH CONTROL DEVICES ARE FREQUENT GOALS OF WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS. SOME GROUPS CLOSE TO PR "INDEPENDISTAS" WERE REPORTED AS ATTENDING MEETING IN SAN JUAN.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 00597 271454Z

3. WE RECALL THAT PR INDEPENDISTA LEADERS IN APPEARANCE BEFORE UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE HAVE CHARGED THAT PR GOVERNMENT'S FREE VOLUNTARY STERILIZATION PROGRAM IS US-INSPIRED FORCIBLE EFFORT TO CARRY OUT "CULTURAL GENOCIDE" IN PR. CUBANS HAVE ECHOED SAME CHARGE IN SEVERAL OTHER UN FORA INCLUDING UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW POSSIBILITY THAT CUBAN DEL TO WCIWY MAY REPEAT THESE CHARGES, MISSION THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT DEPT BRIEF OUR DEL TO CONFERENCE ON THIS ISSUE AND PROVIDE IT WITH RIGHTS OF REPLY TO CUBANS IN CASE THEY RAISE ISSUE. (FYI: LAST UN EXCHANGE INSPIRED REBUTTAL TO CUBANS BY PR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEALTH SILVA IN NOVEMBER 4 NEW YORK TIMES.)
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